

## SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting  
May 17, 2001  
2:00PM  
Room 433, Blatt Building

Members Present: Mr. Barnet, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Everson, Senator Fair, Dr. Gummerson, Representative Harrell, Mrs. Hoag, Mr. Martin, Senator Matthews, Mr. McTeer, Mr. Smith, Mr. Staton, Representative Townsend, and Mr. Wilson.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Barnet welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of March 15 were approved as distributed.

III. Subcommittee Reports

A. Academic Standards and Assessments:

- (1) High School Ratings Criteria: Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He outlined the reasons for and changes in the calculation of high school ratings. The changes include the (a) addition of first-time passage rates for the BSAP Exit Examination, (b) weighting of each criterion, and (c) modifications to the values for levels of performance. Dr. Gummerson addressed the changes. The Subcommittee recommended adoption. The EOC approved the changes;
- (2) Palmetto Gold and Silver Award Criteria: Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He outlined the proposed criteria for the Palmetto Gold and Silver Award Programs for schools enrolling students in grades 3-8. Mr. Staton commented on the low number of middle schools eligible for awards. The Subcommittee recommended adoption. The EOC approved the criteria;
- (3) Longitudinal PACT Analysis: Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He provide statewide and district data demonstrating the number of students (using matched student data) in grades 4-7 that had scored Below Basic on one or both PACT tests for two years in a row. Members commented on the need for technical assistance funding to address the performance levels in many districts.

B. EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:

Mr. Staton reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He detailed changes to the Appropriations Bill from Senate Finance and again called for support of technical assistance, the Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards and color printing of the report card.

C. Parental Involvement:

Mrs. Barton reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. She outlined the RFP for the survey and status of the procurement issue as well as plans to publish compacted standards for parents.

D. Public Awareness:

Mr. Smith thanked members and staff for their participation in the county workshops and announced details for the educator and business workshops over the summer.

E. Staff and Administration:

Dr. Anderson outlined the scope and parameters of the study on district organization. Members discussed the costs of the study and the potential methods to accomplish the task.

Dr. Anderson is going to work with the Materials Management Office to explore contractual alternatives.

Mr. Barnet informed members of the status of the long-range planning initiative and distributed the evaluation criteria and a profile of SC on each of the criteria.

Mr. Barnet reminded members of the June 21 meeting and the July 19-20 retreat.

IV. Remarks from a Key Constituency

Mrs. Dru James, Dr. John Kinlaw, Mrs. Pat Ross and Mrs. Dottie Kinlaw presented information about the achievement-testing program in Greenwood 50. Materials were provided to members in advance.

V. Working with Low-Performing Schools

Superintendent Tenenbaum presented information on the technical assistance initiatives the State Department of Education is using with low-performing schools. The three-tiered system provides resources according to the depth of the school needs.

VI. Contractual Matter

Upon motion of Mr. Smith, the EOC went into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter.

Upon motion of Mr. Smith, the EOC returned to open session. Mr. Smith moved that the contract with Chernoff/Silver and Associates be extended one year. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The Committee approved.

VII. The Committee adjourned to meet again on June 21.